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The Path

The Path الصِّراط

The Straight Path

الصِّراطِ المُستَقيمِ

ـ الإمامُ عليٌّ (عَلَيهِ السَّلامُ): وَاعلَمُوا أنَّ مَجازَكُم على الصِّراطِ ومَزالِقِ دَحضِهِ وأهاوِيلِ زَلَلِهِ وَتاراتِ أهوالِهِ1

1– Imam al-Sadiq (a.s.) said, 'Verily people have betaken to their lefts and rights, whilst we and our Shi'ah have been guided to the straight path.'[al-Kafi, v. 2, p. 246, no. 5]

The True Meaning of the Straight Path

تَفسيرُ الصِّراطِ المُستَقيمِ

ـ الإمامُ الصّادقُ (عَلَيهِ السَّلامُ) ـ في معنى الصِّراطِ ـ: هُو الطَّريقُ إلى مَعرِفَةِ اللّهِ عَزَّوجلَّ، وهُما صِراطانِ: صِراطٌ2 في الدُّنيا وصِراطٌ في الآخِرَةِ، فأمّا الصِّراطُ الذي في الدُّنيا فهُو الإمامُ المَفروضُ الطاعَةِ، مَن عَرَفَهُ في الدُّنيا واقتَدى بِهُداهُ مَرَّ على الصِّراطِ الذي هو جِسرُ جَهَنَّمَ في الآخرةِ .

2– Imam al-Sadiq (a.s.) said regarding the meaning of 'the path', 'It is the way to the inner knowledge of Allah, Mighty and Exalted, and there are actually two paths – one in this world and one in the Hereafter. As for the path in this world's life, it is the Imam whom one is obliged to obey. He who acknowledges him in this world and follows his guidance will be able to [successfully] cross the path of the Hereafter, which is a bridge outstretched over the Fire.'[Bihar al-Anwar, v. 24, p. 11, no. 3]

3ـ الإمامُ الصّادقُ (عَلَيهِ السّلامُ): الصِّراطُ المُستَقيمُ أميرُالمؤمنينَ عَلِيٌّ (عَلَيهِ السّلامُ).

3– Imam al-Sadiq (a.s.) said, 'The straight path is the Commander of the Faithful, Ali (a.s.).'[Ma'ani al-Akhbar, p. 32, no. 2]

Crossing the Path of the Hereafter (The Bridge over Hell)

صِراطُ الآخِرَةِ وَالمُرورُ عَلَيها

4ـ موسى (عَلَيهِ السّلامُ) ـ في المُناجاةِ ـ: إلهي، ما جَزاءُ مَن تلا حِكمَتَكَ سِرّاً وجَهراً ؟ قالَ: يا موسى، يَمُرُّ على الصِّراطِ كالبَرقِ.

4– Prophet Moses (a.s.) asked Allah, supplicating, 'My God, what is the reward of one who recites Your wisdom [i.e. divine Book] loudly and quietly?' He replied, 'O Moses, he will cross the Bridge like lightning.'[Bihar al-Anwar, v. 92, p. 197, no. 3]

5ـ رسولُ اللهِ (صَلَّيَ اللهُ عَلَيهِ وَ آلِهِ): أثبَتُكُم قَدَماً على الصِّراطِ أشَدُّكُم حُبّاً لِأهلِ بَيتي.

5– The Prophet (S) said, 'Those of you who will have the firmest footing on the Bridge are those who have the strongest love for my household.'[Faza'il al-Shi'ah, p. 48, no. 3]

6ـ رسولُ اللهِ (صَلَّيَ اللهُ عَلَيهِ وَ آلِهِ): أسبِغِ الوُضُوءَ، تَمُرَّ على الصِّراطِ مَرَّ السَّحابِ.

6– The Prophet (S) said, 'Perform the ritual ablution diligently and you will cross the Bridge like the passing of clouds.'[Bihar al-Anwar, v. 76, p. 4, no. 8]

7ـ رسولُ اللهِ (صَلَّيَ اللهُ عَلَيهِ وَ آلِهِ): الصِّراطُ أدَقُّ مِن الشَّعرَةِ وأحَدُّ مِنَ السَّيفِ.

7– The Prophet (S) said, 'The Bridge is thinner than a hair and sharper than a sword.'[Ibid. v. 8, p. 65, no. 2]

8ـ الإمامُ الصّادقُ (عَلَيهِ السّلامُ) ـ في قولِ اللّهِ عَزَّوجلَّ: «إنَّ رَبَّكَ لَبِالْمِرصادِ» ـ: قَنطَرَةٌ على الصِّراطِ لا يَجُوزُها عبدٌ بِمَظلِمَةٍ.

8– Imam al-Sadiq (a.s.) said with regard to Allah's verse in the Qur'an: ***"Indeed your Lord is in***

ambush", 'There is an arch on the Bridge that no servant having committed an act of injustice can traverse.'[Thawab al-A'amal, p. 321, no. 2]

9- رسولُ اللهِ (عَلَيهِ السّلامُ): الناسُ يَمُرُّونَ على الصِّراطِ طَبَقاتٍ: ... فَمِنهُم مَن يَمُرُّ مِثلَ البَرقِ، ومِنهُم مَن يَمُرُّ مِثلَ عَدْوِ الفَرَسِ، ومِنهُم مَن يَمُرُّ حَبْواً، ومِنهُم مَن يَمُرُّ مَشْياً، ومِنهُم مَن يَمُرُّ مُتَعَلِّقاً قد تَأخُذُ النارُ مِنهُ شَيئاً وتَترُكُ شيئاً.

9– Imam al-Sadiq (a.s.) said, 'People will cross the Bridge in classes: some will cross it like lightning, some like a racehorse, some will crawl across it, and some will cross it barely hanging onto it, with the Fire burning a part of them and leaving a part.'[Amali al-Saduq, p. 149, no. 4]

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